### Imusements, &c.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—This Afternoon at 1.—Itallen Opera "Fra Diavolo." Prophete." Mme. La Grange. BOOTH'S THEATER, Twenty-third-st., between Fifth and Suth-aves. This Afternoon at 2.—"Romeo and Julet." Mr. Edwin Booth. This Evening at 8.—"The Marble Heart." Mr. Edwin Adams.

BROADWAY THEATER-This Afternoon at 14. Ca-

BROUGHAM'S THEATER, Twenty-fourth-st. -- T Evening at R. -- Much Ade about a Merchant of Venice," and "A lleman from Ireland." Mr. John Brougham. FAIR OF THE NEW-YORK POULTRY SOCIETY, Rink Building, Third-ave, and Sixty-third-st.—Day and Evening.

IRVING HALL.—To-morrow evening.—Grand Con-NEW-YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth-st.-This Afternoon

at 24, and this Evening at 74.—Display of Athletic Skill Rezarelli, Mile. Carlotta Dellerg, Stickney, etc.

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STEINWAY HALL, Fourteenth-st.—This Evening at

THEATER COMIQUE, No. 514 Broadway-This Afternoon at 2, and this Evening at 8.-THE TAMMANY.—Tammany Hall, Fourteenth-st.— This Afternoon at 2, and this Evening at 71.—Varieties.

WALLACK'S THEATER.—This Afternoon at 2, and his Breaug at 8.—"School." Mr. Lester Wallack and Miss Kiffe

WAVERLEY THEATER, No. 720 Broadway. — This Afternoon at 2, and this Evening at 8.—" Lucretia Borgia, M. D." The Riese Holt Barlesque Troupe. WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway and Thirtieth-st.
This Afternoon at 2, and this Evening at 2. - College Bawn. Mr. at
Mrs. W. J. Florence.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

# SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1809.

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it to all practical and theoretical mechanics.

Mr. Senator Mattoon yesterday disappointed any Republicans who may have trusted his pledge that he would remain true to the party that elected him, in opposing the efforts to amend away the Excise law. Fortunately, it is safe without his vote.

Portugal, which, like Spain, still tolerates Slavery in its colonies, has also taken a step forward toward emancipation. The official journal of the kingdom announces that the Ministry have submitted to the King a decree declaring all the slaves of the Transoceanic colonies free, but requiring them to work as freedmen for their former masters until 1878.

The Republicans of the State Assembly, in caucus last night, agreed with us in holding the present- Tax Commissioners' bill a mere device of the Ring. By a vote of 50 to 12 it. was decided to oppose it with the full party strength. It therefore goes the way of the kindred efforts of the Ring to destroy the vitality of the Excise Law.

The Democrats in the House of Representatives, with the aid of 49 Republicans, succeeded vesterday in overpowering the 70 Republicans who believed the legislation that led to the impeachment trial sound and wise, and were anxious to maintain it. The Tenure-of-Office act was thus rejected as it came from the Senate. We are not likely to have, in that body, a square vote on repeal of the law.

Some silly people, the other day, believed for an hour or two that Mr. Johnson was dead. We are quite sure none of our readers could have been among those thus deceived. They all knew better. They must have felt, when they read the dispatches, that Mr. Johnson himself would speedily furnish the refutation. by making a speech, calling on the country to

derman to President, properly reprobating any display of egotism, and demanding what sin had coveted, or whose ass he been. And, sure enough, the news now comes to us in authentic, not to say official speech. Mr. Johnson is better and able to make a speech. He is to be heard forthwith at Knoxville, at Nashville, at Memphis, and Louisville, in defense of the Flag with Thirty-six Stars and in distribution of the Constitution of our Fathers.

We have from Washington excellent promises of reform in the Treasury Department. We think we have heard something of the kind before. There is a chronic reform in embryo there. The trouble is that it generally remains in a state of arrested development. There can be no doubt that much of the talk against the personnel of the Treasury Department is grossly slanderous. But it is equally certain that far more people are employed there than the work which gets done would seem to warrant; that some of them are by no means the best possible selections; that there are numerous private arrangements among the cierks whereby money is made out of the discharge, delay, publicity, or secrecy of the Government business; and that, in short, a careful sifting of the employés of the Department will be of decided advantage to the public interests. But we warn Mr. Boutwell that his heart must be made like the nether millstone before he begins-unless he is content to give us again the spectacle of discharge to-day and reëngagement to-morrow, which has so often been witnessed there before.

It is gratifying to observe that Mayor Hall's numerous civic and political duties have not interrupted the progress of those literary labors upon which his fame chiefly rests. A single quotation, in his speech at Steinway Hall, last Thursday evening, gave evidence of unusual study and research. It was, he intimated, the burden of an Old Song, running thus: "Who would be free themselves must strike the "blow!" The sentiment is a noble one, and worthy of the great minds of the past. We regret that the Mayor did not impart the author's name. It is natural, however, that literary as well as scientific discoverers should guard somewhat jealously the fruits of their toil, and we cannot blame Mr. Hall's reticence on this point. We have, nevertheless, searched diligently among the ancient song-writers for the origin of this powerful phrase, but without success, and we are forced to the conclusion, which, however mortifying to ourselves, compels an acknowledgement of the superior industry of our first municipal officer, that he has carried his investigations to a point far more remote than any we have been able to reach. We have, however, been able to discover his ringing refrain of an Old Song unblushingly stolen by a reckless young English Lord, less than fifty years ago. This minion of an effete despotism never suspected that a literary Mayor of New-York would arise to detect and transfix his shameless plagiarism.

#### LABOR AND POLITICS.

A very large meeting of Working Men was lately held in our City, by which it was unanimously determined, 1. That Labor produces everything, yet secures and enjoys but a share -and that not a fair share-of the product; 2. That it has determined that this shall not continue; and 3. That, to secure their full rights, the Laboring Class will cut loose from politics and politicians, and "go it alone" henceforth, not only in shaping a public policy, but in choosing legislators and other functionaries to give effect to that policy. (The resolves are not now before us; but this is their drift and purport, according to our recollection.)

The Working Men are clearly right in af-

firming the preëminent importance of questions which are practically Social over those which are distinctively Political. They want steady work, confined to reasonable hours, with fair recompense for doing it. They want commodious and convenient lodgings, at rates which are not beyond their limited means. They want sanitary regulations which will protect them from noisome effluvia and from the resulting ravages of pestilence. They want good Common Schools, with ample provision therein for the education of their children. In so far as the State or community shall provide or secure these, it is a blessing to the Working Men; while in many if most of the questions on which our people are divided into parties, they have but a vague, remote interest. It seems, therefore, not only natural but desirable that the Working Men should meet as a class, and propose measures of interest to that class, insisting that they shall receive early and thoughtful consideration. We trust that this Working Men's movement is not to end with the passage of last Tuesday's resolves, but that meeting after meeting will be held, in which the rights and tiently considered than they were or could be at the gathering in question. And, as our first contribution to the sum of knowledge on the general subject of Labor Reform, we proffer the following frank yet not unfriendly criticisms on the late proceedings at Cooper Insti-

I. We do not object to the designation of those who labor for wages as distinctively Working Men, provided it is fully kept in mind that this is dictated by convenience, and that there are in fact many other Working Men than they. Thus, the brothers Harpers were not only journeymen printers fifty years journeymen, who never dreamed that eight nor even ten hours' efficient work excused them from doing more while work remained to be done and there was daylight whereby to do it. They are rich and powerful to-day, because they were specially energetic and frugal while young and poor. So, we cannot doubt, John Jacob Astor, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Alexander T. Stewart, and nearly all our present millionaires, made the very utmost of their hours and their pence in their portionless, friendless youth. Now, we are not commending these men as models for imitationwe do not insist that every poor man should strive to become a rich one-we readily admit that there is force in the statement of those who prefer to "take things easy" and "enjoy "life as they go along;" but we do insist that the case shall be fairly set forth and clearly understood. Great wealth is the product of rare capacities or of rare diligence and frugal- ing whether in any menagerie, from the days ity-generally of a combination of all these. In monarchies, it may to some extent be won by royal favor; it is not so here. The founders supposed it to be. We grow suspicious of our of our great fortunes had to work for them-as first ourang-outang. We connect clock-work truly as though they had wielded the trowel or shouldered the hod. Let not this truth be

ignored or by groundless clamor obscured. II. The laborers for wages fairly earn their | caravans, only last Summer, which was stated money; but so do others. The skillful engi- on the bills to have cost \$50,000 in his native

railroad, as fairly earns the \$100,000 paid him he had ever committed, whose ox for his services as the digger with pick and spade earns his \$2 per day. It ill becomes either of these useful citizens to disparage the achievement or grudge the recompense of the other. "Live and let live."

III. We cannot deem it wise or well to array Labor against Capital. They are not necessary antagonists. They are natural allies. We lately visited a manufactory at Glenhaven. where milk-pans, ice-pitchers, and every description of tin-ware, are daily stamped from plates or sheets into the desired forms at a single blow, dispensing with seams. solder, &c., altogether. The ware is at once much better as well as cheaper than it would be if made by hand. Labor is thus doubly benefited: it is better paid than formerly, because far more efficient; and it is supplied with cheaper wares. But the machines whereby this is effected cost \$10,000 to \$30,000 each; and their aggregate cost must exceed Half a Million Dollars. Can any good reason be given for antagonism or jealousy between the owner of this machinery and those who work it or those who buy its products? We insist that there is or should be none, since all are sharers in a common benefit. And yet ours is not the view which elicits rounds of cheers from assembled Working

IV. Though Cooperation was alluded to, it did not seem to hold a high place in the confidence or the affections of those who engineered the Working Men's meeting. We deeply regret this. To our mind, Cooperation is the true and only effectual remedy for many of the evils complained of by the Laboring Class. Let us take the case of the Journeymen Tailors for illustration, because they were represented at the meeting as worse paid and more oppressed than most others. These live by making up garments, most of which are bought and worn by working men. Their trade requires no expensive machinery or outfit, and but a few dollars' worth of stock per hand. Let us suppose, then, that one thousand journeymen (and women) tailors should this day resolve to drink no more liquor or lager, use no tobacco, and spend neither time nor money in haunts of dissipation, until they shall have saved an average of \$100 each, and invested the \$100,000 thus accumulated in the stock, implements and fixtures of a Cöoperative Tailors' Establishment, with a stock of ready-made garments constantly replenished by their own labor, while they should stand ready to do custom-work as required. Let manager, buyer, cutters, and makers, be paid fair wages each week, and let any profit that should be realized at the years' end be fairly apportioned between Capital and Labor on some scale previously agreed on as just and equitable-each stockholder receiving a dividend proportioned to the amount of his stock, and each worker a like dividend, based on the amount of his yearly earnings. Why would not this plan work? Why should it not be tried? We believe that there are men among the journeymen tailors who could work out the problem triumphantly; for, if there are not, then the Working Men's clamor about the tyranny of Capital is even more senseless than we have ever supposed. If Working Men will not buy directly of Working Men, preferring the intervention of a "boss," or if they cannot trust themselves to choose fit directors of their labor, or if they will not practice the self-denial requisite to gain the moderate capital required, let us ascertain the fact and conform to it; for the steed that will not run the required race without a rider must not complain of that rider's weight. But we are confident that Cooperation is widely practicable, and Not anxious that the attempt be fairly made. the least of its recommendations is the fact that it will preclude further controversy respecting the Hours of Labor, by rendering each worker the master of his own time, enabling him to work many or as few hours as he shall see fit.

# "VERY LIKE A WHALE."

These are times in which one may well sym-

pathize with the little girl who found out that her doll was stuffed with bran, and straightway tearfully lost all confidence in everything. There is no knowing for how many Byrons of a small sort the confessions of Mr. Barnum concerning the mermaid are responsible. The dreadful investigations of the analytical chemists have detected Death not only in the pot, but everywhere else-in the cups which cheer us, in the lamps which illuminate us, in the liberal air which we breathe; and the very soap itself with which our linen is washed turns out to be a destroyer in disguise. No purer pleasure can gently agitate the human mind than that of gazing upon tigers, lions, whales, and other outlandish wild fowl; yet it now seems that we and our dear children may have been put off with false quadrupeds and fishes, and that the great elephant himself, wrongs of Labor will be more fully and pa- Romeo by name, and the little elephant herself, Juliet, so called, may have been impostors with confidence-men in their interiors. Only last Summer, we had in this city what was neatly and classically called a "Natatorium," among the manifold attractions of which was a Living Whale. This highly educated monster disported himself in his tank in the liveliest way, giving rise in the minds of the spectators to various pleasing thoughts concerning those Pacific seas in which he was born, and to many brisk imaginations about his ancestors who had been harpooned, and his descendants whose time of trial and trying out was yet to come. Parents peed n't mention it to the ago, but they were remarkably hard-working little ones who were specially impressed; but it is now discovered that this cetaceous marvel was only an old boat with a cloth skin-a hollow humbug, without an ounce of blubber in his whole constitution, utterly devoid of spermaceti, and quite incapable (whatever may have been the apprehensions of the lookers-on) of sweeping away "the Natatorium" with but one lash of his irresistible tail. To make everything pleasingly scientific, the creature was owned by "a Professor;" but, alas! it now seems that he was also manufactured by "a Doctor." The "Professor," with incredible ingratitude, refused to pay "the Doctor," and hence an action in Court (Andernach vs. Gebhardt), during the trial of which the real character of the leviathan was exposed to an astonished world.

> We do not care so much for this whale; we were not among those who visited him in the days of his glory; but we cannot help wonderof our boyhood to the present time, we have ever really seen anything which was what we with our earliest cage of monkeys. We doubt at once both the laughing and the crying byena. There was a quadruped in one of the

lion days' work in the construction of a great ever brought to America-a sort of cross, it struck us, between an antelope and a buffalo. It seemed to us at the time that he kept uncommonly still, and now, after serious reflection, we begin to think that he was simply a mockery and a snare. Of course, after this, the wild-beast show can have no pleasure for us, for the very lion himself may be only a jackass. As a matter of personal pride, we shrink from being deluded by automatous monkeys. How are we to believe in the Royal Bengal Tiger, unless, with our own eyes, we see him devour somebody? How are we to trust the rhinoceros, unless he is allowed to come into the ring and have a real fight with the elephant? We feel all our original skepticism concerning the gorilla growing stronger and stronger. If matters go on at this rate, we shall soon be losing our faith even in the Democratic party itself. We write this with a melancholy feeling which we do not care to conceal. There is the skeleton of the megatherium beside which we have so often stood with thronging feelings of human insignificance; and perhaps, after all, the huge frame was constructed by some "Professor" or "Doctor." 'T is all one hereafter whether "the great attraction" may be "almost in "shape of a camel," or "backed like a weasel," or "very like a whale." Barn-yard fowls and the dear, domestic cows will be as well worth seeing.

> PRICES, IMPORT DUTIES, AND CONSUMP. TION.

Maxims digested from notions of facts that are general, or common, or facts that are most general or common, are so convenient for general and common use, that they often pass for absolute governing truths. Of this sort is the assumption that supply is regulated by demand, and the other assumption that prices regulate consumption. Neither of these propositions is always true, but, on the contrary, they are both very often false. In respect to luxuries, generally, the supply to a great extent produces the demand. In the fine arts, and in matters of taste, including, for the purpose of this argument, literature, news, theatrical representations, and fashionable dress and equipage, the supply provokes and leads the demand. The like influence is seen, also, as to the commodities usually classed as the necessaries of life; the demand for more of these and of better quality is greatly increased by their exhibition in the market. Newspaper and other forms of printed advertisements, show-windows and store signs, pay their cost with a profit by their efficiency in inducing demand; toy-shops, picture-stores, new novels and magazines, as well as daily and other newspapers, are clear instances of supply creating demand. But the point is of less importance in reasoning upon economical questions than the other whose truth we are just now concerned to impeachthe too prevalent notion that prices rule consumption. The facts of experience broadly contradict this opinion.

An English laborer is not induced by the cheapness of commodities to consume the more of them. The American laborer will use twice the quantity at double the British prices. The truth is that prices only affect consumption when and where the conditions of the consumer are the same. The mass of our population is as well or better clothed and fed, and otherwise furnished with necessaries and enjoyments, than they were in years gone by, when these things cost only half of their present prices. Indeed, a careful review of the country's varied fortunes will show that periods of very low prices are periods of greatly diminished consumption, carried even to the extent of serious privation, and accompanied with greatly diminished production; and that the rule of high prices is marked by abundance in consumption, and the answering abundance of production. A decided and well-sustained rise in the prices of commodities is followed by a proportionate appreciation of the value of land neither of which are consumed, in the sense of being destroyed, in the use. On the contrary, their whole value consisting in their productiveness, whatever enhances this adds so much absolutely to the stock of the general wealth, and such addition is sure to be distributed upon the whole community. High prices of food may follow a failure of crops, and bring no relief with them; but in the commodities which do not depend upon the seasons, scarcity is never the cause of any injurious appreciation

of market rates. Neither does abundance of production produce abatement of price, for it tends to induce enlarged consumption. The grand regulator of all these movements and cause of these varient and apparently contradictory effects, as they are manifested in prices, supply, demand, and consumption, is the ability of the people to purchase, and we must therefore look to the industrial condition of the community for the principles that rule them, and we must look to t also for direction and remedy, if we would wisely manage the interests which are affected by prices, supply and demand. Errors of opinion in these matters lead to mischiefs in prac-

When free traders denounce a tariff or a tax, as obstructive or prohibitory of foreign trade, they are saving nothing to the purpose, unless such burdens upon or restrictions of commerce diminish the productiveness of domestic industry, and the power of the people to consume. They infer that enhancement of prices, however occasioned, must be followed by diminution of consumption, or of the ability to consume. This is a manifest non sequitur, and it is clearly contradicted by a most ample experience. If the cost of commodities is doubled by any cause or causes which carry up the wages of labor and the other rewards of industry at an equal rate, prices are no higher in effect than if the products of the precious metals were so greatly increased that their value in the market fell to one-half in comparison with the value of other commodities. But if our reasonings seem insufficient, we present a few facts upon which the objector must try his own logic :

In the fiscal year 1860 (the most favorable year for the opponent in our commercial history) we imported for consumption of dutiable goods to the value of \$268,000,000. The average duty upon these goods was exactly nineteen and six-tenths per cent. In the year 1868 we imported dutiable goods to the value of three hundred and forty-four millions, the average duties being forty-seven and eighttenths per cent. Here we have an increased import of 30 per cent under a rate of duty within a fraction of one and a half times greater. Or if the difference will be better understood and felt, the duties of 1860 amounted to \$52,750,000, and in 1868 to \$164,-500,000. This being the general result of the highest rates of duty, combined with the highest prices of our history, we in turn ask an explanation from the people that speak of our tariff as prohibitory, oppressive, and destructive of commerce abroad and industry at

home. We need not pursue this demonstration in remember the round of his characters from Al- neer who, by his original devices, saves a mil- African desert—the only creature of the kind | reference to particular imports; but an in-

stance or two may be given in further confirmation of the positions which we have taken. In 1860 we imported 122,174 tuns gross of railroad iron, when the duty was 24 per cent, which, at the import price given in the Customs report, is equivalent to \$7 27 per tun. In 1868, the duty on the gross tun was \$15 68, and we imported 270,535 tuns, considerably more than double the quantity taken than when the duty was a good deal less than onehalf. Again, in 1860, the duty upon brown sugar was 24 per cent, which was equal to one cent per pound, and we imported 693,000,000 pounds. In 1868, the duty was four cents per pound, and the import rose to above 193,000,000 pounds. In 1860, when coffee was free of duty, our import amounted to 201,000,000 pounds. In 1868, the duty at five cents per pound, the import rose to 252,000,000 pounds. Tea, also, was free of duty in 1860, and we took 30,500,000 pounds, at an invoice value of 281 cents per pound, while in 1868 we imported above 37,500,000 pounds, at an invoice value of 294 cents per pound, with a tariff duty of 25 cents on the top of that, or a duty nearly equal to the first cost. In taking the year 1860 for comparison of dutiable imports with those of 1868, it is to be

observed that the average rate of duties then was by much the lowest in operation since the year, 1817, and the imports of dutiable goods larger than in any previous year except 1857. and full fifty-three millions of dollars, or twenty-five per cent, greater than the average of the ten years immediately preceding. The commercial year 1860 was, in fact, one of those critical ones, marked by inordinate importations, which have usually preceded our financial revulsions. We have therefore given our opponents immense advantages by selecting it as a representative year for the purposes of trying their theory-advantages more than enough to counterbalance any increased consumption by the larger population of 1668. That we had a larger population in 1868 than in 1860 is certain; how much larger it is not easy to ascertain, nor safe to guess; but we may reasonably doubt whether we had even so large a consuming population. The seven and a quarter millions of the Rebel States in 1860 had more than double the consuming power that their population had a year ago, and this falling off may be taken to cover the actual increase of purchasers in the loyal States, or, at most, the advantage conceded above the ordinary rule, by taking 1860 for the exponent of the low-price and light-tax system, greatly more than covers any difference of population at the respective dates which we have employed.

We have said enough, we think, to show that general high range of prices, whether produced by increased demand, or increased duties or taxes, provided these also are general, do not, and can not, burden the consumers or abate their ability to purchase. Our official figures show that the present tariff rates, which are still called restrictive and even prohibitory, have allowed of an enhancement of our foreign purchases beyond all parallel, and that our very high market prices have not diminished, but increased, consumption and comfort; and all this because the system has carried with it the ability of the people to purchase. The prejudice that so much increase of duties

upon foreign goods must mean not only so much increase of their market price, but an equally diminished ability to purchase upon the part of the consumer, seems inveterate, for it is kept alive in the minds of the unskilled by the cunning of the unprincipled.

## A CATHOLIC AT THE SOUTH.

We take pleasure in making some extracts from a private letter, written to Charles A. Lane, esq., by his friend, the Rev. Thomas Farrell of St. Joseph's Catholic Church of this city, who is sojourning in the South during the Winter for the benefit of his health. The letter is dated Green-Cove Springs, Florida, Feb. 21. It is a remarkably lucid statement of the case, and, coming as it does from a Roman Catholic clergyman, than whom few can be found more zealous and devoted in his calling, it must be potent if not to remove, at least to shame once more the base prejudices and paltry subterfuges of those who labor to keep a whole people in antagonism with the legitimate progress of the American Nation: DEAR MR. LANE: It is very often difficult to disprove

what is asserted boldly and in general terms to the disadvantage of others. In such cases, we can suspend our judgment until we obtain the information necessary to form a correct opinion. Such has been my position in regard to the Colored people of the South, and I resolved, on the first opportunity that presented itself, to visit them and judge for myself. Experience taught me to disbe-lieve many things said against them, both on account of the source whence they proceeded, and the unworthy contempt and unchristian batred manifested toward that oppressed people. Before Emancipation, we were told they were not fit for freedom, but we were never told when they would be fit. A person is not fit to read till be learns, nor to practice most callings till he is taught. I remember an aged elergyman who, in speaking against their freedom, used to say, with great gravity and show wisdom, "A person ought not to go into the water till he knows how to swim." It was sad to see his juniors laughing at the obstinate stupidity and prejudice of age, and yet they were as obstinately stupid on that subject as he was or as any one could be.

And now, after all the observations I could make and all the information I could get, I have no hesitation in saying that they will use the franchise just as intelligently as the same class of persons in New-York. I was once very well satisfied with free lom for the Colored people without the right to vote. But an esteemed friend convinced me that they could not without it protect themselves in their rights. Now I am satisfied that the franchise is absolutely necessary for them, and that, in a republican government, it is more necessary for the poor an than it is for the rich. It makes him respect himself and makes others respect him. Without it, that deference which soothes the hard lot of toll would not be paid bim. The statesman, the lawyer, the divine, and the politician, would never erect their rostrums in the slums f our cities, and become the schoolmasters of the labor ing classes, if they had not the right to vote. Before Emancipation, it was predicted that the negroes would come North and take away the employment of the Whites. But they did not come, and yet the falsity of the predic tion did not stop the mouths of the prophets of evil They next foretold that they would not work, and that

we would be taxed to support them in idleness. Well, if they had a little idleness for the years of toil during which they supported and kept others in idleness, it would be only a just compensation, and I would like to see a little of it, if only to show how it was enjoyed. But the fact is, that most of the labor done here is performed by them, and they are just as willing as other people to do an honest day's work for fair wages. If treated kindly and paid fairly, we should hear very little of those troubles between employer and employed which annoy us so much at the North, and which tend to disturb the otherwise quiet aspect of the South. If living perma nently at the South, I would not wish for a more indus trious, respectful and obedient laboring people. They are as capable as any other poor people of learning any trade that may be taught them. There are, even now, many very good carpenters, bricklayers, and blacksmiths among We constantly hear people talking of their igno rance, and yet I find them equally as intelligent with the same class of people at the North, or as the laboring population of the Old World. It is true that most of them cannot either read or write. But could this be expected when it was so lately a crime to teach them, as it was for them to learn ! Thank God! it is so no longer. They are now pretty well supplied with good schools which are well attended; and the testimony of their teachers, who are White and many of them natives of the outh, is, that the children are as docile, smart and intelligent as the same class of White children. If the parents had been educated, the children of course would have greater facilities and helps in learning. I understand that the Freedmen's Bureau is to be continued some time

longer for educational purposes, and I am very glad of it; for then the education of the Colored people will be placed beyond the possibility of failure.

I spent a few days in a town here of a population of more than 6,000 in which there is no school for White children. This shows how education has been attended to in the past. Who that loves his kind, would not be glad Slavery—the common enemy of education, morality, and industry—is dead? I feel so happy that I deals t some blows and helped to kill it. But is it not shame ful for mon to call the Blacks ignorant when they did all they could to keep them in Ignorance t Would it not be cruel to degrade a man, and then to upbraid him with his degradation? Would it not be heartless to rob a man, and then to reproach him with his poverty? Would it not be shameful to strip a man of everything, and then to laugh at his nakedness! The English prohibited by law the education of the Irish and then called them ignorant. The Anglo-Saxon race in the Slave States did the same to the Negroes, and the Irish approved and sustained it. How strange! But oppression does not teach justice and fair play even to the oppressed, and tyranny is the worst school that man was ever placed in, to learn the virtues that ought to adorn manhood.

I was told before I left home that the negroes were anxious to return to their masters, and to get back again into Slavery. Well; I have questioned the aged, weighed down by years and broken down with hard toil; I have questioned the poor in their abject and cheerless poverty; and the answer of all was the same in substance. Were you anxious to become free! "We, Sir! The Lord knows how we panted and prayed for that day; but was it not long a coming! Still, the Lord knew best, I suppose." Would you not like to go back to Slavery t "No. Sir: I would die first; they would have to kill me, sure."

It is said that the Colored people will die out: well, I suppose we shall all have to die when the time comes and I am of the opinion that the Colored people will not die any sooner than other folks. Judging from appearances, I would say that they are much healthier than the Whites; and, calculating from the number of children they have, I could never guess the time of their dying out. In the State of Georgia for the year 1868, the marriages of the Blacks exceeded those of the Whites by quite a respectable number. Persons who make predic ions about the dying out of the Colored people have, I suspect, very little confidence in their pet theory of the superiority of Anglo-Saxon or Caucasian blood; for udging from their complexions, the Colored population have a great deal of Anglo-Saxon blood in their veins and, judging from their names, I would say that they had also a good deal of Celtic blood in them.

The shrickers often ask, do you want to put the White man's neck under the heel of the Negro? I don't know whether to call that question tragic or comic. It is certainly not poetle, for truth is an essential element of Is the giving to a man the rights of a freeman, putting

his neighbor under his heel? Is the making of man the equal of his fellow before the law giving him a right to tyrannize over another! If it is, then I want more of that subjection and tyranny established throughout the world; and I will not be content till the whole human family has the benefit of it. I hear it often asked, Do you want me to sit in the Leg-

islature with a negrot My answer is, No. I den't want you nor any man to sit anywhere that is inconvenient for you, or does not suit you. But, if the people elect a man to represent them in the Legislature, I want you to submit to their votes, and respect their choice; otherwise you are not fit for a republican form of government. Is it not remarkable that the same question used to be in-dignantly asked a few years ago in New-York in order to prevent the Colored people from riding in the city cars. The persons who asked the question were often, at least in their own estimation, humane, gentlemanly, and Christian men. Not a doubt of it! I would like to see the man that dared to question it! They were men of tender and kind feelings, and some of them, for all I know, may have belonged to Mr. Bergh's Association for the prevention of cruelties to animals; and yet they saw no cruelty in compelling poor Colored people to walk from Harlem to the Battery from their hard day's toil. Such a nuisance could not be tolerated. Men's feelings must not be shocked, nor their senses offended; and now. by the progress of events and the force of public opinion, he sits in every car, and refined gentlemen are not shocked, nor sensitive ladies offended.

But the men who talk in this way are very often the ones who entered into the most intimate relations of life with the Colored people. Herein we have evidence enough that they were not so fastidious as they assume, nor was their aversion for the Colored people so great as they pretend.

But enough. The election of Grant shows, even now, the dawn of a brighter day; and before his term of office expires, I predict that all men in this Republic will glory in the enjoyment of equal rights and equal justice before man and law. With kind regards, truly your friend, THOMAS FARRELL

In our recent article on the Legal-Tender decisions of the Supreme Court, we said that the retrospective operation of the Legal-Tender act of 1862 did not appear to have been questioned in the Courts. We have since found that Judge Ingraham of this city, in delivering his opinion in Meyer agt. Roosevelt, in 1863, considered this question, and held that the act was not retrospective. This opinion was not published in the regular reports, the decision having been reversed (without discussing this point) in the Court of Appeals; and it was in consequence of this that we had forgotten the opinion referred to.

Judge Davies, in his opinion in the same case on appeal, showed that in the days when kings issued base money the English Courts held it to be good tender in payment of old debts; but the Supreme Court has either disregarded these precedents (which are contrary to the doctrine of all other analogous cases) or, as it well may, holds that a currency all of coin must be regarded in a different light from a currency composed partly of coin and partly

The following statistics of crime in New-York during the year 1868 offer good cause for alarm:

Arrested in the Courts. 688 63 12 476 89 2,066 63 279 232 119 ult, felonious 154 24 347 15 24 3 Burglary. Forgery Larceny, grand. Murder Murder
Picking pockets.
Receiving stolou goods.
Robbery. 4:107 Total..... 4,712 665

As long as this state of things continues, it will be idle to look for a diminution of crimes of violence. Heavy sentences do some good, but they will not prove very efficacious when hardly one case in eight is ever tried. The Police, the Judges, and the District-Attorney must all cooperate. Out of 78 arrests for murder, only 15 cases got as far as the Courts. Out of 13 persons arrested for bigamy, only one was tried. Out of 65 cases of arson, only two were tried. Of the pestiferous brood of receivers of stolen goods there were 255 arrests and only three trials; and so on to the end.

Apart from other objections, the steamship schemes now before Congress have these grave defects: 1. They propose to diminish our mail facilities, when they ought to be increased. 2. They propose to take from the Treasury more than twice as much as we now pay for the ocean mail service. 3. They will interpose serious obstacles in the way of ocean penny postage. 4. They demand exclusive privileges for long periods-ten and fifteen years-which will render the establishment of rival American lines virtually impossible. 5. Some, if not all of them, present ample opportunities for defrauding the Government.

-We shall be glad to favor any honest scheme for building up our prostrate shipping interest; but if the shippers want to fasten themselves upon the Post-Office Department, the least they might do is to offer us as good and as cheap a service as we have already.

We see it stated that Judge Russell, of the Superior Court of North Carolina, has issued a proclama tion commanding six members of the Kn-Klux Klan to surrender themselves to the Sheriff of Robeson County, or any other lawful officer of the State, and authorizing any citizen of the State to capture and bring to justice these outlaws; and in case of flight or resistance, after being called on to surrender, to slay them, without accusation or impeachment of any crime.